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ISSUED FOR THE STAFF OF THE SOIL CONSERVATION  
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October 14, 1941

No. 23



by H. H. Bennett

When Secretary Wickard announced the 1942 agricultural production goals he answered a question we've all been asking pretty often in the last few months-- "What can I do for defense?"

The job he outlined is big enough to keep us busy for some time. It involves not a few but nearly every farm product; not only production, but marketing, processing, and distribution; every farm and farmer in the United States; and every agricultural agency and organization.

In this all-out drive for food, the Soil Conservation Service has a particular job to do. It's up to us to help the farmers produce wisely from the standpoint of the soil. That's not the most dramatic, not the most appealing, not the most immediate part of the total job, perhaps, but it's just about the most important, and the toughest to handle. In a way, we've got to be like the fellow who jumps onto the stage in a theatre fire and directs people calmly to the exits. He has a hard time making people listen but he knows what a stampede will mean. It's our special job to help prevent unnecessary damage to our soil resources in the drive to produce more food.

At the same time, of course, we must join forces with all other agencies of the department in helping farmers to achieve the level of food production called for in the present situation.

A very good statement of the way we can best go about this double-barrelled job, it seems to me, is the following, taken from a regional memorandum:

"The following statements of policy in regard to Farm Planning will be the bases for an 'all-out' effort by the Soil Conservation Service of Region -- to do its part in National Defense as the first order of business. Production goals for Agriculture have been set up by the Department by states and within these state limits county goals will be set up. Therefore:

"1. All farm plans prepared in the future must be in keeping with production goals set up by each specific county U. S. Department of Agriculture County Defense Board. Farm plans must reflect the comprehensive Department program for defense presented by the several Agency representatives serving on the County Defense Board.

"2. Farm plans now in effect will, if necessary, be amended to make them compatible with such production goals. Where such plans now provide for some degree of flexibility in terms of production units, amendment may not be necessary, but these plans should be followed up for the express purpose of ensuring that this flexibility is exercised in a direction consistent with production goals.

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## ABOUT DEFENSE

A farm production campaign for 1942 providing for a complete mobilization of American agriculture to adjust production to domestic needs for national defense and to the needs of nations resisting aggression has been announced by Secretary Wickard. Goals for 1942 provide for a total farm production 15 percent higher than the 1924-29 average, with special emphasis on vitamin and mineral-rich livestock products for which demand is increasing in this country and which are among the foods most needed by the British.

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Four big regional meetings for planning agriculture's part next year in the national defense program are being held during the latter part of this month. Secretary Wickard will make the key address at each of these meetings which are scheduled for Salt Lake City, Chicago, New York, and Memphis.

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One of the most unusual exhibit trains in history, showing farmers how they can aid national defense, is touring South Carolina during the month of September. Officially known as the "Live Stock and Better Farm Living Special," the train represents the joint efforts of the Atlantic Coast Line railroad and the extension department of Clemson Agricultural College, and is the first "Better Farm Living Special" in the tidewater South.

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Ground has been broken at Naugatuck, Conn., by the U. S. Rubber Co. for the first synthetic rubber plant to be built in New England. With a capacity already increased to 10,000 tons a year, four times that originally planned, the plant is being built under an agreement between the rubber company and the Defense Plant Corp. The latter is advancing funds for construction, with the company in charge of operations.

Training of 100,000 volunteer nurses' aides within the next 12 months, in collaboration with the American National Red Cross and the major hospitals of the country, has been announced by OCD Director LaGuardia.

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The United States and Haiti have signed an agreement under which lease-lend goods valued at \$1,110,000 will be sent for defense of that island in the Caribbean. Repayment will be made through shipments of Haitian products to this country, and will probably include rubber, sugar, cocoa, fibers, and other raw materials.

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The Maritime Commission has announced that 12 ships will go down the ways in the largest mass launching since World War I on "Liberty Fleet Day," Sept. 27. Six will be launched on the Atlantic Coast, five on the Pacific, and one on the Gulf Coast, including the first three of the 312 emergency ships under construction. Four other new merchant ships in the 500-ship long-range program were delivered to operators between Sept. 11 and 19, making a total of 110 vessels completed under the program.

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The campaign to increase the junking of worn-out autos and thus provide additional scrap iron and steel needed urgently for defense production has been extended to midwestern cities. OPM officials are asking automobile wreckers and scrap dealers to strip derelict cars now in their yards of salable parts and scrap the bodies and engine blocks immediately.

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At the request of the government of Ecuador, two public health nurses are going to Quito to assist in public health and maternal and child welfare programs in that country.

## SCS INAUGURATES SCHOOLS FOR RECRUITMENT TRAINING

To meet the demand for experienced technicians to work with the increasing number of soil conservation districts with which SCS is cooperating, the Service has inaugurated a systematic program of training and work supervision to develop men recruited from technical fields.

Recruitment training schools have been set up in several regions and the program seems to be working out very satisfactorily. Trainees have been selected for the most part from the junior professional registers which are established annually by the Civil Service Commission.

The school program is planned to cover a six-month training period. Two weeks are devoted to a formal orientation course; then follows a four-weeks training assignment in work application and labor supervision in a CCC camp or in some other unit employing laborers. The third period of training covers a four-months individual assignment to an experienced technician for job training. The program is concluded with approximately one week spent in group training, practical tests, and comparative rating.

Reports from some of the recruitment training schools will be published in the next issue of Service News.

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Administrative promotions which were scheduled for October 1, according to the provisions of the Mead-Ramspeck Act, have been suspended until further notice from the Secretary's office. The question of funds within the Department to carry out provisions of the Act is causing the delay. The Washington office is hopeful, however, that matters will be cleared up within the current month.

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The first three petitions for Arizona conservation districts have been approved.

## FORAGE PROGRAM ATTRACTS CARNATION MILK COMPANY

The Carnation Milk Company is establishing a plant at Dadeville, Ala. and the farmers who will profit by the sale of milk to the company can thank kudzu and sericea.

Representatives of the Carnation Company, who surveyed several counties before selecting their plant site, stated that the feed production program which had been developed through the use of kudzu and lespedeza sericea in this area was one of the most significant they had seen anywhere in the country. It was on the basis of the perennial forage program that they decided to locate at Dadeville.

R. Y. Bailey, chief of Region 2 Agronomy Division, recently inspected the Dadeville Demonstration Project and reports that he is greatly pleased with the progress which has been made in pasture development. "It appears," says Mr. Bailey, "that the perennial forage being produced on land which farmers had abandoned may be the basis on which a change will be made from a row-crop agriculture to a better balanced type of farming in which livestock is included."

## WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT (Continued from page 1)

"3. Provision for farm gardens will be made in all farm plans in which gardens are feasible and practical. The farm garden will be expected to be reflected in all new plans and cooperators with existing plans will be contacted in regard to this phase of Agricultural Defense as rapidly as circumstances permit.

"These defense aims do not alter the normal responsibilities of farm planners but these aims are now incorporated with their normal responsibilities and take first place in the order of discharge of responsibility in formulating a farm plan."



## PROCEDURE INSTRUCTIONS REVISED IN NEW MANUAL

Volumes I and II of the Service Manual, which have been in process of preparation for some time, have been distributed recently throughout the Service. Volume I is entitled "Policies, Objectives, and Organization," and deals with over-all informational and instructional material. Volume II, which is entitled "Administrative Procedure," contains general, service operation, personnel management, finance, and land acquisition procedural instructions. Additional parts of these and other volumes are being prepared and will be released as soon as completed.

The Manual will gradually make obsolete the series of Field Memoranda and other miscellaneous mimeographed memoranda. A list of all such memoranda which have been cancelled because of the release of Volumes I and II of the Manual has been issued as F.M. 1023.

In preparing Manual outlines and text, all procedures on a given subject have been grouped so far as possible. A modified form of the decimal system is used to number principal paragraphs or chapters. Full information regarding the Manual plan will be found in the Preface, Volume I.

Complete sets of the Manual have been furnished in Washington to assistant chiefs, division chiefs and other supervisory personnel; sufficient copies were sent to the regional conservators to provide complete sets for regional division chiefs, other regional supervisory personnel, and field offices.

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The CCC camp at Hebron, Nebr., which was recently disbanded, held a 3½-year safety record. Of the 342 CCC camps under SCS supervision, only three others the camps at Mt. Pleasant, Utah; Stockton, Ill.; and Berryville, Ark. -- can boast a three-year span unshattered by a lost-time accident.

## E. MAES STUDIES INDIAN AFFAIRS IN S. AMERICA

Ernest E. Maes of the Albuquerque office, who has been loaned to the Office of Indian Affairs for one year, is now touring all South American countries to study the administration of Indian affairs in those countries. Starting on his official assignment in Venezuela, he has travelled through Columbia, Ecuador, and Peru, and will continue southward on his circuit of the South American continent.

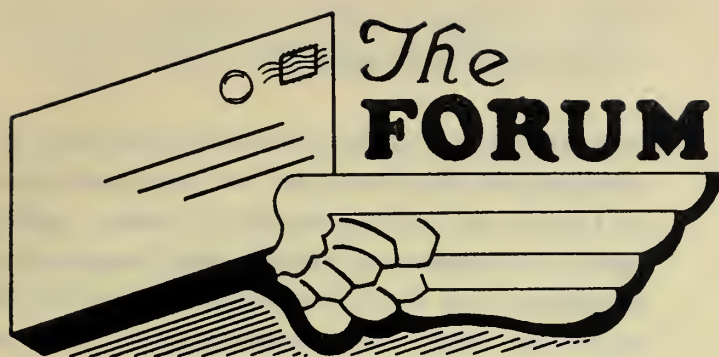
While travelling through the lands of our southern neighbors, Mr. Maes has had an opportunity to observe the erosion problems of that continent and to meet a number of Government officials in charge of tropical ministries of agriculture. Mr. Maes has written to Ernest Holt, Chief of the Biology Division, and reported that there is a growing realization of the need of a conservation program in South American countries.

"Everywhere I find a tremendous respect that verges on awe of the United States Department of Agriculture," says Mr. Maes. He expresses the belief that any assistance which the USDA could offer in working out agricultural problems of South America would be heartily welcomed.

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Spanish language versions of SCS movies are proving extremely popular with Spanish-American rural people throughout New Mexico.

More than 3,300 persons in 19 Taos County communities saw the Spanish version of "Roots in the Earth", "Muddy Waters", and "Grassland" during a summer series of educational meetings sponsored by the Taos County project. Another 1,500 persons in Santa Fe County and the Estancia Valley saw the same pictures in recent educational programs sponsored by the Extension Service and SCS. Showings were made possible in rural communities by using portable electric generating equipment.



## EQUIPMENT

Here is hoping that you, Mr. Editor, have broad shoulders with a moisture repellent coat cause I want to let my hair down and let go.

Possibly every locality has individual problems and troubles with one pet peeve in particular. Well, here is one that, I bet, is affecting more than one locality. EQUIPMENT. SCS Equipment that has done a lot of work, possibly five or six years of hard digging, pulling and grunting. Equipment that has a year or two, possibly three years of work still left more costly than in the past. Equipment that has a worn track, clutch, transmission, generator, or even a corroded battery cable that might give out. Equipment that is old and turned over to a District for further work operation. Equipment that has been inspected by the Service as perfect and good for another year. Equipment that is accepted by the Board of Supervisors and then needs a new generator brush, battery, or fuel injector. (Can't blame the inspector, he can't find everything). Equipment that might have a major breakdown, resulting from a crystallized main bearing or worn bushing, at any moment. And the Supervisors giving their time and efforts, without pay, trying to operate the District on a shoestring. To them, a nickel is five full cents and hard to get. Minor repairs are sometimes more than serious to them financially.

What is the solution for this source of trouble? I don't know, but here is a suggestion that I wish someone would consider. If new equipment is loaned to the

District, well and good, make them responsible for it, subject to the SCS Inspector's reports. If it is equipment that has seen better days, don't make the District 100% responsible but encumber Government funds to meet District funds on repairs for used tractors, graders, trucks, etc., depending on the age and condition of the equipment when it is loaned to the susceptible Board of Supervisors.

Maybe someone else has a better idea, if they have, please spill it.

S. W. K.

## SAFETY PAYS

The value of having bows on our trucks with a tarpaulin properly fastened to the top was proven yesterday when one of our Chevrolet stake body trucks in Army service turned over after dodging a woman and child. The woman did not see the truck and the truck driver turned to the right to miss her and she drove into his left front wheel turning over the truck. Seventeen men were riding the truck when it turned over. Had the top not been on there is no doubt in my mind there would have been serious injuries or perhaps a fatality; as it is, only minor scratches and bruises due to the men falling on one another, there may be a two or three day lost time case due to shock but nothing else.

When I arrived at the wreck several minutes after it happened the weight of the truck was held off the ground by the bows. The men had been thrown against the top and were all within the bed of the truck. This was important due to the other car's position alongside. One man tried to jump but the tarpaulin caught him, no doubt he would have plunged into the other car with serious results. We had to unfasten the tool box, water barrel, and seats before setting the truck back on

(Continued on page 6)



## NEW RADIO SERIES DRAMATIZES EROSION

The Service has just finished production of "This Land We Defend," a series of ten transcribed radio dramatizations.

"This Land We Defend" contains some good plain story-telling, seasoned appropriately by drama with overtones of humor and, of course, undertones of tragedy in the theme itself--defense against "an enemy within our borders," erosion. Service personnel and commercial and government radio men who auditioned the shows recently say they're tops. Script-writer Forney Rankin says they are neither high-brow nor lowbrow and should be of interest to everyone.

The shows were professionally produced and most of the music is original, composed especially for the series.

The Federal Radio Education Committee is going to distribute platters to some 2500 schools and colleges in the U. S. having play-back systems. Platters will also be distributed to radio stations throughout the country.

The series includes "The Saga of the Forest," "America's Vanishing Soils," "Conservation Comes of Age," "Democracy in Action" (districts), "Dust Storms," "Floods," "Mormons," "The Beaver," "Pennsylvania Dutch," and "Snow Surveys."

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Dillon S. Myer has been named alternate for Dr. W. W. Stockberger who is the principal Department member of the Board of Review on Efficiency Ratings established in the USDA under the provisions of the Ramspeck Act.

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H. C. Mesch, head of SCS Safety and Health Section, has been appointed chairman of the Safety and Health Section of the Society for Personnel Administration.

## THE FORUM

(Continued from Page 5)

its wheels. As the boys unfastened the clamps holding the lid of the water barrel, ten or more gallons of water poured out. I dread to think what would have happened had this barrel been free or the tool box which was locked or the seats unfastened. Only a partial bent front fender was all the damage done the truck proper. three bows had various bends, none serious. You may rest assured we of this company feel all the work building these and all the various safety measures to fasten down seats and the like were more than paid for in that few seconds.

## BOARDS OF APPEAL

You know I had no idea there were as many as 753 Boards of Appeal. (See page 6 Service News of September 6). That appeals to me as a lot of boards. How would I know which board to select if I wished to appeal? Couldn't the number be reduced to say half of that and still provide for consideration of all really worthy cases?

P. K. H.

(The author of this letter knows the answer but will have his fun. For the uninitiated, 753 refers to the number of the Secretary's memorandum setting up the boards of appeal. - Ed.)

A. E. Victor, Region IX Assistant Administrator, CCC, is serving a brief assignment in Washington, D. C., as the Service's representative on a special interdepartmental committee to work out standard job specifications for the CCC training program.

## OFF THE PRESS

"Legumes for Erosion Control and Wildlife" by Edward H. Graham. Miscellaneous Publication No. 412.



## WANT A SOUTH AMERICAN JOB? TELL E. G. HOLT

Have you worked in or for a Latin American country, or can you speak Spanish fluently--and by fluently we mean that and not school book "habla"? Well, if you can qualify on either count, and are interested in the possibility of a job in South America, please write to Ernest G. Holt, Chief of Biology Division, Washington, D. C., and give him your qualifications and experience.

Don't expect an acknowledgement of your letter. But Mr. Holt will place your letter on file and notify you when "something breaks" in the way of a job for which you could qualify. These calls for technical help in South American countries seem to break rather quickly--and frequently in recent months.

## USDA STYLE MANUAL

The USDA Style Manual, which imparts detailed information on the preparation of Department correspondence, has been distributed to all Washington and field offices. The procedure outlined in the manual is now in effect in Washington and will go into effect in the field offices on Oct. 1.

Jessie Haseltin, Phillip Mixsell and W. K. Hoover are preparing a supplement to the USDA Style Manual in order to clarify questions which have been raised regarding special procedures for handling mail within SCS.

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In answer to Secretary Wickard's call for increases in dairy and livestock products in 1942 in connection with the national defense program, technicians in Region 3 are advising farmers to plan for supplemental pasture crops next year in order to provide a uniform supply of pasture during the late summer months when dry weather and drastically reduced forage are the rule rather than the exception.

## HERE'S LATEST ROLL CALL FOR MILITARY SERVICE

If this keeps up, the military furlough list soon will include all the young men in SCS. Here is the latest group to go on military leave:

Washington, D. C.: Edward S. DeMyer; Thomas McKinley; Allan F. Peterson.

Region I: Albert Shupe Barnhart; Claude H. Drake; Ralph G. Eckert; Dewey L. Outen, 1st Lt. Inf-Res; Peter Petrusik.

Region II: Richard E. Brown, 1st Lt. CA-Res; John C. Clyburn; J. Rolfe Derflinger, 2nd Lt. Inf-Res; Allan T. Dotson, Jr.; Clarence M. Ellerbe, 1st Lt. Inf-Res; Duthiel W. Fortenberry, 1st Lt. Inf-Res; Edward S. Hagood; Robert S. Hankins; French W. Hursey; Samuel T. McDowell; William T. McMeekin; Tommy M. Martin; William J. Mayhugh; Eskel N. Miller, Jr., Capt, Inf-Res; John C. Mustard, Jr.; Frank F. Nelson, Jr.; Lionel F. Smith, 1st Lt. Engr-Res.

Region III: Joseph Blaha; Eldon Lee Faler; Robert W. Henman; Donald M. Hersh; George O. Townsend.

Region IV: Choyce G. Brock, 1st Lt. Inf-Res; Robert E. Bynum; John P. Cogdell; Arthur T. Elder; Clair E. Ewing, 2nd Lt. CA-Res; Louis W. Herndon, 1st Lt. Engr-Res; Roland C. Madeley, 1st Lt. Cav-Res; William A. Moseley, 1st Lt. Inf-Res; Price Neeley; Guy W. Snively; James P. Stafford, Jr.; Jack A. Stevens; Courtney A. Tidwell, 2nd Lt. Inf-Res; Orville C. Word, Jr.

Region V: George D. Carroll; Victor C. Fox; Earl C. Haase; Gene T. Hamilton, 2nd Lt. Cav-Res; Duane R. Medd; Timothy G. Miner, 1st Lt. CA-Res; Albert L. Mix; Eugene W. McGaan; Kenneth K. Neitzel; Oscar E. Peters; Carl A. Sharrow; Hugo T. Shogren, 1st Lt. CA-Res; Earl W. Wheeler, 1st Lt. Engr-Res.

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## SCS EMPLOYEES TOP LIST IN BOND SALES CAMPAIGN

Participation in the Defense Savings Bonds and Stamps purchase campaign for the Washington office moved up last pay day so now 95.2 percent of all employees are cooperating. This record keeps SCS at the top of the list for all USDA bureaus taking part in the campaign. The nearest competitor for high honors, FCI, reports 92.6 percent of employee participation.

The regional offices have been asked to inaugurate a campaign to interest all field employees in the purchase of bonds and stamps. As the regional programs get under way, reports of sales activities will be published in Service News.

### LATEST ROLL CALL

(Continued from page 7)

Region VI: Dwight R. Cable; O. Kenneth Fuelscher, 1st Lt. Inf-Res; Fred S. Kruger; Arthur J. McCleery, RM2c (V-3) USNR; William R. Monroe; Melvin P. Rogers; Robert D. Shipp; Lionel C. Tschudy; Roland G. Wilson.

Region VII: John H. Andersen; Robert M. O'Connor; Elwood M. Walter.

Region VIII: Joe F. Bennett; Daniel H. Griswold, 1st Lt. Engr-Res; Doyle C. Hales; Paul J. Klingenberg; George A. Lawrence; J. Ray McCorkle; Andrew H. Schmidt.

Region IX: Theodore R. Horning, 1st Lt. Inf-Res.

Region X: William R. Gianelli, 2nd Lt. Engr-Res; Edward C. Koch; Charles H. McCoy, Jr.; Glenn M. McKenzie; J. Pat O'Neill; Charles W. Thomas, 1st Lt. Ord-Res; Olin F. Weymouth, Ensign D-V (G) USNR.

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First Region 5 soil conservation camp for conscientious objectors has been established at Denison, Iowa.

## CCC BOYS HELP CONSTRUCT SOLDIER HOUSING UNITS

Release of CCC enrollees working on soil conservation projects so they may assist in constructing housing units for soldiers on leave is another example of the Service's cooperation with the defense program.

Plans have been approved for the assignment of 40 enrollees each from the four SCS camps at Osage and Ottawa, Kans., and Pilot Grove and Platte City, Mo. These enrollees, World War veterans, will build recreational housing facilities capable of accommodating 1000 men in Kansas City.

Authorization has similarly been granted for the detail of a complement of junior enrollees from the Gonzales, La., camp for a four-month period. They will undertake the construction of a 1000 man housing project on Lake Ponchartrain, near New Orleans.

Where approval has been granted for the assignment of enrollees for such national defense work, provision has been made so the work program will not be unduly inconvenienced or retarded.

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S. C. Lattimore, vice president of the Federal Land Bank in the third district--which includes the southeastern States--expressed his appreciation of soil conservation work in a recent statement. Said Mr. Lattimore:

"There has been no record of a foreclosure brought to my attention where the farmer was following land use practices recommended by the soil conservation service technicians, except in one case caused by the death of the owner."

The Columbia, S.C., newspaper, "The State," used Mr. Lattimore's statement as the subject of an editorial entitled, "Solvent Soil Savers."



## ENROLLEES HELP FARMERS HARVEST THEIR ONION CROP

Meeting an emergency usually not classified under the customary CCC emergency heading, CCC enrollees from the SCS camp at Gardner, Colo., won high praise from the Pueblo Star-Journal and Sunday Chief-tan by volunteering to help farmers get in their onion crop. The harvest situation was made critical by the advanced season and likelihood of early frost.

In anticipation of the harvest labor shortage this year, due to the national defense program, last month Director McEntee issued authority to field personnel providing for the furlough of enrollees for harvest work.

## FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

In calling attention to the observance of National Fire Prevention Week, Oct. 5 to 11, H. C. Mesch, Head of Safety and Health Section, says, "Our consciousness of the destruction and suffering caused by fire is now probably at its highest point in the history of the Service. Pictures and news dispatches from Europe emphasize the importance of adequate fire fighting equipment and the need for thorough understanding of the facts about fire.... Now is the time to pursue our efforts more energetically than ever before to reduce needless fire waste in SCS."

Total fire losses in 1940 of property administered by SCS amounted to \$73,000.

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Five members of SCS are teaching at the USDA Graduate School this semester. Jay A. Bonsteel is repeating his course on soil conservation; E. H. Graham is offering a new course in land management ecology; A. E. Brandt will instruct in the statistical treatment of experiments in the plant and animal industries; Paul Bissell will teach layout and applied art; and Sallie M. Pease will again offer her course in vocabulary building.

## DISTRICT SPONSORS FIRST CONTOUR PLOWING CONTEST

What is believed to be the first contour plowing contest in the United States will be sponsored by the La Crosse County, Wis., soil conservation district supervisors on Oct. 8. Plowing matches for straight furrows have been popular with farmers for many years but this one will feature only the contour method of breaking ground.

Contestants will be chosen in four district contests in Wisconsin and one contestant each will be selected from Minnesota and northwestern Iowa. The match will include contests for both tractor-drawn and horse-drawn plows. An added feature will be a contest for high school boys in laying out contour lines.

## SOLANO LUNCHEON CLUB

The Solano Agriculturists' Luncheon Club, made up of representatives of various agricultural agencies in Solano County, California, meets regularly once a month for luncheon at the county seat. Members exchange news and views of developments in their respective organizations.

The Club consists of representatives of the Agricultural Extension Service, Agricultural Adjustment Administration, Farm Security Administration, Federal Land Bank and Soil Conservation Service. These get-togethers are proving worthwhile and they are carried out in the spirit of informality, reports Everett F. Nourse, Project Manager for Soil Conservation Service.

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The female contingent of Land Acquisition Division has organized a Home Production Chapter of the Red Cross and the 38 members are busily engaged in sewing and knitting garments. The ladies expect to display some of their finished work in the Red Cross exhibit to be held in the USDA building patio, Oct. 20-31.

## PRINTERS' INK

"Hydrologic and Hydraulic Research Studies with Special Reference to Soil Conservation and Flood Control" by C. E. Ramser, Chief of Hydrologic Division, in the April *Bulletin of the Associated State Engineering Societies. Illinois Society of Engineers.*

"Contour Crop Picture Painted by Farmers" by F. E. Charles, information specialist at Dayton, in the September *Agricultural Leaders's Digest.*

"Conservation With War Background" by H. H. Bennett in the August *California Cultivator.*

"Do We Cultivate Peaches Too Much?" by J. T. Bregger, soil conservationist at Clemson, S. C., in the August *Rural New Yorker.*

"Soil Conservation in the Orchard" by J. T. Bregger, in the *Tennessee State Horticultural Society Proceedings (1939-1940).*

"Soil Erosion in the United States" by H. H. Bennett, in the June *International Institute of Agriculture Monthly Bulletin of Agricultural Science and Practice.*

"Written in the Syrian Desert" by W. C. Lowdermilk, Assistant Chief, in the August *American Forests.*

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The project monograph for Elm Creek project, Temple, Texas, has been received by the library and is available for loan.

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Safety awards for having driven 5 years without being involved in an automotive accident were recently presented to 151 persons in Region 8. In addition, 187 other awards were presented for periods ranging from one to four years without accident.

## FIELD MEMORANDA

477-B Employment under letter of authorization. (Summarizes regulations pertaining to LA employment.)

1022 Construction - county buildings - Departmental policy and procedure. (Encloses Secretary's Memo No. 881 and Supplement No. 1. Urges field officers to familiarize themselves with procedures so that housing interests of SCS may be coordinated with other USDA and county agricultural agencies.)

1023 Cancelling previous field memoranda and other memoranda. (List is attached of field memoranda and other memoranda which are cancelled or superseded by instructions in Volumes I and II of the Service Manual.)

477-C Employment under letter of authorization - caretakers. (SCS granted special exemption to employ under LA for six months caretakers at temporarily closed camps or improved areas.)

904-Q Military service - membership in State Guard units or local defense organizations. (USDA employees free to participate in local defense organizations but cannot be granted military leave for activity in such units.)

904-R Leave for employees in military service. (By Act of Congress, employees now in military service may be paid for accrued leave.)

1024 Department correspondence manual. (Procedure established by new manual will be put into effect in field offices not later than Oct. 1.)

905-A Printing and binding. (Sets up new and complete instructions re the ordering of printing and binding.)